(c) Departmental action has been initiated to fix up the responsibility.

(d) Improving Telecom. Services by inducting new technology in the Telecom net-work and improving productivity of manpower is a continuous ongoing process. Better Customer services is also insisted upon.

Overcharging by DOT from Consumers

854. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item captioned "Metro subscribers paying more for fewer phone calls" which appeared in the Economic Times of the 3rd February, 1993;

(b) if so, whether the DOT has been overcharging consumers to the tune of Rs. 450 crore under the new scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that the MRTPC have received complaints in this respect against the DOT; and

(d) if so, what corrective steps Government propose to contemplate in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) The information is being called for and shall be placed on the table of the House as early as possible.

S.T.D. Facilities in the Country

855. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of places connected with STD facilities in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any plan to connect all Taluk Headquarters and Municipal Headquarters with STD; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) State-wise list of No. of places connected with STD as on 31-3-93 is given in the statement enclosed. (*See below*)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Taluka/Tehsil Headquarters or equivalent towns and places served by telephone Exchanges of size 500 lines or above are proposed to be provided STD facility by 1-4-95. Also all industrial growth centres, tourist and pilgrim centres are proposed to be provided STD facility by 1-4-95.

Statement

Number of Stations Provided S.T.D. as on 31-3-93 *for States/Union Territories*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	No. of STD Stations
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar .	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	230
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	12